

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 207958
ORIGIN EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 /022 R

66011
DRAFTED BY EB/OA/AVP:JSGRAVATT
APPROVED BY AJWHITE
IO/TRC:DSCHIELE
-----114762 171044Z/21

R 162104Z AUG 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL MONTREAL 7658

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FOR US REP ICAO

FOL RPT GENEVA 12286 SENT ACTION SECSTATE DTD 10 AUG 8

QUOTE: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 12286

E.O. 11652 NA
TAGS: EAIR, ICAO, SA
SUBJECT: CIVIL AVIATION TRAINING CONFERENCE FOR BENEFIT
OF AFRICAN STATES, GENEVA, MAY 32 TO JUNE 2, 1978

REF: GENEVA 08814

1. PER PARA 7, REFTEL, REQUEST DEPARTMENT INFORM MISSION
WHETHER ANY RESPONSES WERE SENT TO ELEVEN DELEGATIONS
REQUESTING USG ASSISTANCE IN TRAINING THEIR CIVIL AVIA-
TIONS PERSONNEL. MISSION CONCERN IS BASED IN TWO
FACTORS:

(A) US BUSINESS INTERESTS: AS INDICATED PARA 9,
REFTEL, WE BELIEVE POTENTIAL IMPACT OF OUR COOPERATION
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OR LACK THEREOF WITH CA INITIATIVES IN AFRICA MAY HAVE
A HELPFUL OR ADVERSE EFFECT ON OUR COMMERCIAL SALES
THERE. WE SEE NO REASON, THEREFORE, TO ALLOW OTHER
MANUFACTURING COUNTRIES OF CA EQUIPMENT, BOTH GROUND
AND AIRCRAFT, TO MOVE INTO TRAINING OF PERSONNEL (WHICH
NORMALLY LEADS TO DEMANDS FOR EQUIPMENT) WITHOUT US
COMPETITION. AFTER ALL, EXPERTS SET CA STANDARDS AND

FOREIGN EXPERTS ARE LIKELY TO DEVISE STANDARDS FAVORING THEIR OWN COUNTRIES' MANUFACTURERS - NOT OURS. MISSION REALIZES CURRENT USG POLICY IS TO SUPPORT CA WORLD-WIDE THROUGH OUR ANNUAL CONTRIBUTION TO UNDP WHICH IN TURN SUPPORTS ICAD. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT IT WOULD BE TO OUR ADVANTAGE TO SUPPLEMENT THIS THROUGH DIRECT ASSISTANCE TO AFRICAN COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY THOSE WHICH HAVE SOUGHT OUT OUR ASSISTANCE, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE GIVEN OUR FINANCIAL CONSTRAINTS.

(B) CREDIBILITY: SOME DELEGATIONS DISCUSSING THEIR TRAINING NEEDS WITH USDEL WERE HEADED BY MINISTERS. FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS, USDEL COULD ONLY HEAR THEIR REQUESTS AND PROMISE A LATER RESPONSE. THE PROMISE, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

HOWEVER, WAS MADE IN NAME OF USG. THEREFORE, WE ARE CONCERNED THAT SOME RESPONSE BE PROVIDED IN ORDER TO RETAIN MISSION'S LOCAL CREDIBILITY IN OTHER GENEVA FORA NOT TO MENTION USG BI-LATERAL CREDIBILITY WITH THOSE GOVERNMENTS.

2. IF DEPARTMENT DESIRES TO INSTRUCT MISSION ON TYPE OF RESPONSES TO BE GIVEN TO EACH COUNTRY NAMED PARA 7, MISSION WILL DRAFT AND SEND RESPONSE TO EACH CHIEF OF DELEGATION, AS PROMISED. PLEASE ADVISE. SORENSEN UNQUOTE VANCE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CIVIL AVIATION, PERSONNEL TRAINING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 aug 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE207958
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JSGRAVATT
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780336-0321
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780857/aaaabvql.tel
Line Count: 94
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8aea8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 GENEVA 8814
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1718897
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CIVIL AVIATION TRAINING CONFERENCE FOR BENEFIT OF AFRICAN STATES, GENEVA, MAY 32 TO JUNE 2, 1978
TAGS: EAIR, XA, US, SA, ICAO
To: MONTREAL
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8aea8662-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014